

# Fresno Police Department

## Chief's Advisory Board Minutes

July 31, 2008

Present: Kamal Abu-Shamsieh, Morgan Doizaki, Jesse McDonald, Jim Poptanich, Rebeca Rangel, Carol Mills, Enrique Reade, David Tittle, Mui Vuong.

Absent: Kelly Nelum, Paula Farris, H. Spees, Jimmy Bosquez, Roz Clark, Tom Gentile, Harry Gill, Debra Odom, Luke Raughley, Marvin Reyes, Michael Roth, Gordon Donoho, Jan Sangster

Guests: Deputy Chief Pat Farmer, Lieutenant Dennis Montejano, Sergeant Brian Rogers, Staff Assistant Lissa Parker.

Call to Order: The meeting, held in the City Hall Annex Training Room, was called to order at 5:45 pm.

### Minutes:

Minutes from May 29, 2008 were approved without corrections

### Opening Remarks:

None

### Agenda Items:

#### Transition in C.A.B. Members

Chief Dyer: The advisory Board was intended to consist of a representative sample of the community. The rotation ensures fresh perspectives, as well as the opportunity to get feedback from as many knowledgeable sources as possible. Council member appointees not included in the rotation. Groups tend to develop "group-think," which contributes to a lack of diversity of ideas. I need people to tell me what I need to hear, not what I want to hear. This Board needs to be significant. I want to be able to have good feedback.

The following organizations have been asked to rotate out:

- Cruise Control
- First Presbyterian
- Sierra Tribal Consortium
- Chinatown Revitalization
- One-by-One Leadership
- Central Ca. Criminal Justice Coalition
- Central California Alliance

The following organizations have been invited to join in January. Additional organizations may be added to the list.

- Marjaree Mason Center
- Lao Family Community
- TRIAD (Senior Citizen advocacy)
- Building Industry Assoc. of Fresno/Madera Counties
- Local Healthcare Coalition
- Centro La Familia

Abu-Shamsieh: Suggest having youth leadership on the board

Chief Dyer: Would be good for the P.D. to have a Youth Advisory Board made up of leaders of youth organizations, then perhaps one member of that advisory board would serve on this one. Please e-mail suggestions into us regarding appropriate youth organizations.

Doizaki: Suggest Downtown Association be considered

Lt. Montejano: We will be creating an information packet for new members

Poptanich: Suggest a calendar of events Board members may attend. Also, perhaps, set up new members with an old member, sort of as a mentor to help get them situated.

Rangel: Maybe include a list of previous "hot topics" and things that influenced decisions. Also new members should be encouraged to go to Crimeview.

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Title: Citizen's Police Academy is highly recommended. It's a great experience.

DC Farmer: The Academy starts on Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.; it goes for 16 weeks on Wednesday evenings. Takes place right here. For more information, you can call 621-2349. It costs somewhere around 10 or 20 dollars. There is also a separate one for Spanish speaking residents. You just have to live or work in Fresno to register.

### CALEA Reaccreditation Ceremony

Chief Dyer: The ceremony takes place at 1:00 p.m. on August 4<sup>th</sup> at City Hall. We will also be honoring those people who worked so hard on the reaccreditation process. Brian Rogers is one of the people instrumental in us being reaccredited. The only thing worse than not being accredited is being accredited and then losing it.

### Operation 3056 / Operation Gatekeeper

Chief Dyer: This was a long-term investigation we performed into the Villa Posse, a West Fresno, African American gang with 120 validated members and over 100 more associates that had been wreaking havoc all over Fresno. They were involved in drive-by shootings, home invasions, drug dealing, etc. This was a highly organized criminal group, considered untouchable for the last 15 – 20 years. The operation started in November and ended a couple of weeks ago and resulted in the dismantling of the gang's leadership. This should have long-lasting, positive impact.

### Round Table/Announcements

Chief Dyer: Introduction of Mui Vuong and Carol Mills.

Abu-Shamsieh: Update on enforcement of cell phone laws?

D.C. Farmer: The first day, we issued hundreds of citations. Officers have also been giving warnings. The CHP, however, has been citing everyone; no warnings. We are seeing fewer, but still issuing a couple hundred citations a week.

Reade: What about the people smoking in the car or putting on makeup?

Chief Dyer: Anyone can be cited for being a distracted driver.

Reade: MADD recently had a meeting in Sacramento. More people from Fresno attended than from anywhere else. On September 18<sup>th</sup>, MADD will honor law enforcement agencies in 4 or 5 counties for their dedication to keeping drunks off the roads. We thank Fresno PD and the Chief for their efforts and commend Mark Van Wyhe for his determination to catch repeat offenders and keep the streets safe.

DC Farmer: We're also looking at dedicating [DUI] checkpoints. Putting up photos and other things to memorialize victims makes the checkpoints very personal. The public may view them a little more favorably or respectfully, than seeing them as a mere nuisance. It makes them more meaningful to the public.

Doizaki: Parking Services is no longer supporting a security guard in Chinatown. The guard has always been the first person you call when there's trouble. He won't be there anymore.

Chief Dyer: We have no control over Parking Services, but that's good information to pass along to Bike Patrol. The parking situation downtown is a system designed to fail. The cost to build a parking structure is about \$18 per stall. We can't charge what other cities can charge for parking; it will never work.

Rangel: Any movement on mediation?

Chief Dyer: We are still hoping for 3<sup>rd</sup> party mediation. We do plan of it being a large part of future discussions.

Reade: When and where are we allowed to wear our C.A.B. ID badges?

Chief Dyer: It's not so much about where or when as it is about how and why.

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Mills: Some schools still have the digital speed displays operational even though school isn't in and the speed limit is above 25. Drivers are conditioned to slow and to proceed with caution when they see those. This is causing some problems and resulting in confusion.

DC Farmer: We'll have someone look into it.

### Closing Remarks:

None

### Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

### Next Meeting:

August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008